

President Walker Offers Griffith the Use of Charlotte, N. C., Park for Training

CHARLOTTE MAY BE NATIONALS' PLACE FOR 1913 TRAINING

President Walker Offers His Plant to Manager Griffith.

SLUGGERS HAVE YET TO BEGIN BIFFING

Local Team Looks Light With Stick in Early Work.

By "SENATOR."

Charlotte, N. C., will be the training place for the Nationals next year, if President Walker, of the Charlotte club of the Carolina Association, has his way. He has offered the use of his park and clubhouse to Manager Griffith for 1913, lauding the plant to the skies. However, it is doubtful if Griffith will go anywhere else but Charlotteville next season. He likes the Virginia town, and believes he can return. He has but to conclude a lease of the training quarters used this year, and he thinks he will come to an agreement as to that.

However, in the event that Manager Griffith is unable to lease the house Charlotte becomes a formidable applicant for the appearance of the Nationals. The park is one of the best minor league plants in the country, and the players would be able to condition themselves under the best conditions.

John Gansel, manager of the Rochester club of the International League, wants the Nationals to share Anniston, Ala., with his club. Offers have been tendered to Griffith from Fayetteville and Raleigh, N. C., but the leader of the local team will not act hastily in this matter.

The Nationals, with the exception of Eddie Gagner, were at the Florida avenue park this morning for batting practice. They found the infield soft and spongy, and it will evidently need more time before rounding to. However, by the time the season opens here, April 15, it should be perfect.

Had Disappointments.

The Nationals had an evening of disappointment before arriving in the Land of Nod, this fair city. The game with the University of Virginia boys did not finish until nearly 6 o'clock, and no time was lost in getting to the dinner table. The food was made to disappear as by magic and the whole band of youngsters, feverish to get away from the red clay of Virginia and the monotonous grind of the training stunts, were loafing about the porch of Griffith Hall, waiting for the order to leave for the station.

A telephone call from the railroad station informed Manager Griffith that the train, instead of leaving at 7:30 would get under way at 8:30. No, it was not welcome news to the players. They said little, but their jaws dropped several feet, for Washington loomed up in the distance as the Promised Land. By and by, the suits were changed and the athletes began to stroll down to the station, where their special car awaited them. They were ready to leave at 8:30, but no train came along.

Nine o'clock came along and card and checker games were being played, but still no train was in sight. Finally, at 9:15 the train showed up, not the one originally expected, but the Nationals' special car, but a car and at 9:30 the wheels began to roll toward Washington.

After Midnight.

It was shortly after 12:30 when the long train pulled into the Union Station. Several friends of Tom Hughes, "Buck" Becker, and Joe Engel, the trio of local residents, were on hand with cheery welcomes, and Manager Griffith, laden with his own special leather bag, in which he carries the balls and glove he uses in the club, proceeded through the gates to the plaza. There they embarked in taxicabs for their hotels. The players are divided between the Dewey and the Ebbett, where they will be "at home" to their friends from now on.

From a purely physical viewpoint the Nationals have derived much good from their sojourn at Charlottesville. "Buck" Becker tore loose yesterday in practice and displayed no signs of having a lame wing. He was the last pitcher to round to, and Manager Griffith is much pleased with the condition of his twirling staff. Joe Roeding is limping slightly, the result of turning his ankle in Fayetteville gymnasium Saturday morning.

Eddie Foster, the midsize third baseman, has not begun to cut loose yet, yet he has been getting his men at first with regularity. Flynn's arm is a bit weak, but growing stronger every day. Schaefer and Miller can peg to the plate now and get the fastest runners in the business. Moeller, the catcher, is a crack, is going ahead slowly, refusing to use his whip until the weather is warmer.

Weak At Bat.

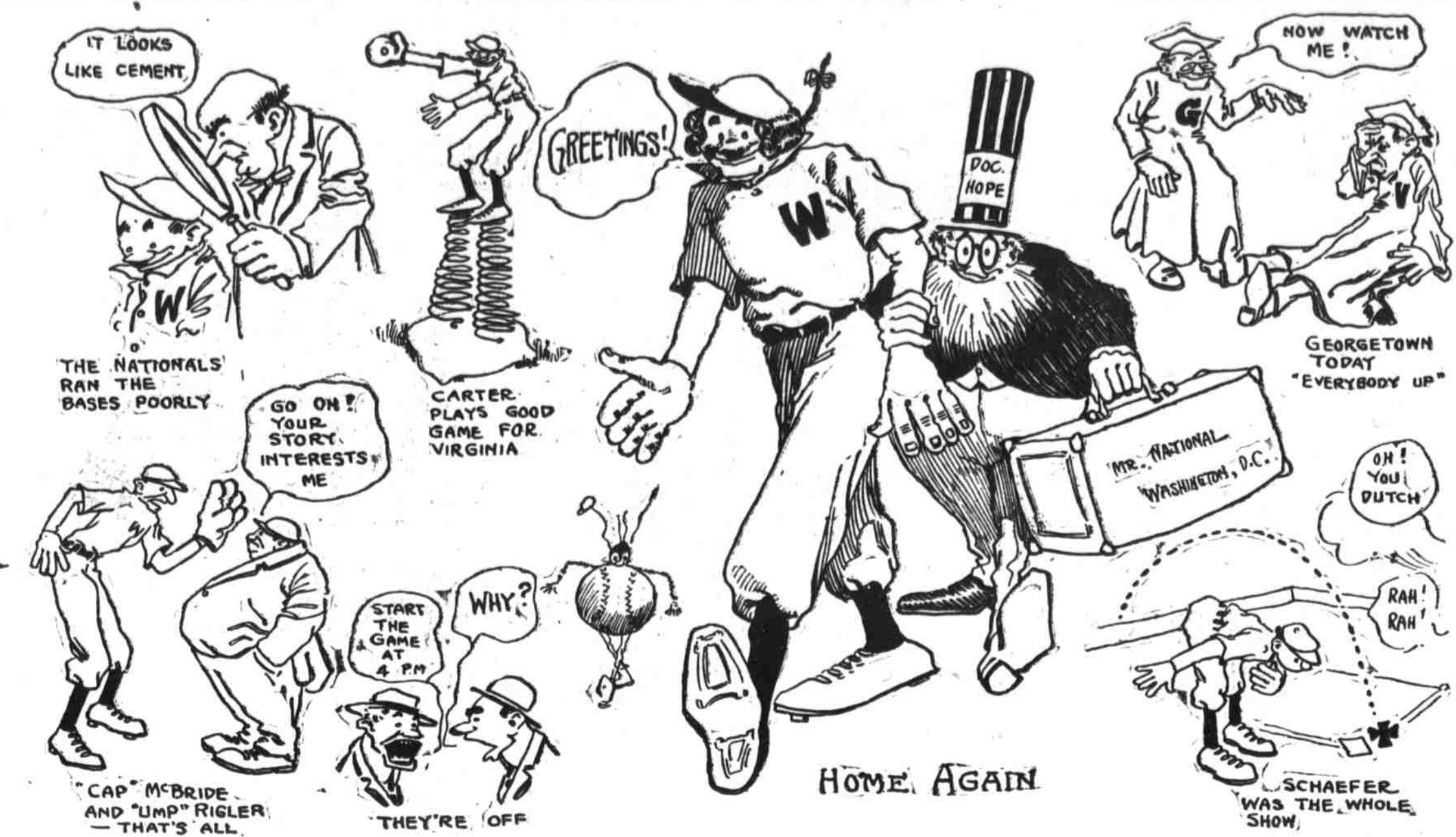
Only at the bat does the team look weak. The best hitters of last year, Schaefer and Miller, have yet to get started with the willow. Schaefer got three hits yesterday, the best he has done since he reported. Moeller, though making a very good showing, hasn't begun to hit as hard as he can. Cunningham is having far better luck than he did last year. Foster is doing fair work, and so are McBride and Flynn. But, as a whole, the team has had its troubles with the Virginia college pitchers, and have been almost helpless against Dixie Hughes and Tom Hughes, Tom Hughes, and Carl Cashion.

"I've seen a lot of ball teams," said Manager Griffith today, "and I've seen many come back from the Virginia trip in worse condition than my club this year. If they can only begin hitting, we will have a chance to do something. But right now the boys haven't displayed any propensity to whack the daylight out of any pitcher. That's what's worrying me."

Ziegler to Assist.

PHILADELPHIA, March 27.—"Dutch" Sommer will be assisted in the coaching at Colgate early in September by Gus Ziegler, the former All-American guard. Ziegler is to coach at Exeter again, but his season does not open until a week after the Colgate squad gets under way.

Oh, Joyous Band of Warriors Bold, Thrice Welcome to the Family Fold



PITTSBURGH MUCH IMPROVED OVER LAST YEAR'S NINE

Clarke Says More Strength Is Demonstrated In Each Department.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., March 27.—"I am very well satisfied with our club and our prospects for the coming season. I will not claim any pennant, but will say that the Pittsburgh club, as at present constituted, is much stronger than it was during the 1911 season. I expected to witness a great improvement when I came South, and there has been no disappointment. You can say for me that we are much better—much stronger than we were last season."

So said Fred Clarke, in answer to a query as to pennant possibilities this year.

"Wherein does this strength lie?" he was asked.

"In every department. We have some new men who are going to help us. Donlin and Hyatt are both factors in this added strength. Then, some of our young pitchers who were with us last year are showing up exceptionally well. O'Toole will do his share, too."

"What about first base? Is that problem solved? Is Miller going to pluck the plump?"

"Now you are asking me a question I am not ready to answer. Miller has been playing well, but as I said before we came here, no position on the team is filled until the best man has proved his right to be selected. We are going to be careful this season and not make any false moves—that is, any that can be avoided. I have no doubt that we will have a very successful class he will be considered."

"How about the outfield? Have you decided who to play right and who left, assuming, of course, that Wilson will be placed in center?"

"That, too, is a subject that will have to wait for adjustment. There is time plenty to cross that bridge when we come here. Just now we are working to get into condition. The youngsters are working as hard as the old fellows. When we return to the clubhouse, the championship battles I will make my decisions."

It is known that Manager Clarke has great respect for the Phillies' strength this season. Unlike Horace Fogel, he can see some good in another club; and while he isn't going around announcing the fact from the house, it is known that he believes that if the Quakers can be distanced there will be more than a home of landing the flag.

Scout Billy Murray, who was quoted in a Pittsburgh paper some time ago as having said that the Corsairs would have to split more pepper if they were going to make any showing this year, denies ever having made the statement attributed to him.

"Why," he said today, "there is enough pep being spilled at Whittington Park these days to supply half a dozen baseball clubs. And, unless I am sadly mistaken, that pep will be in evidence when the season is under way. Just now we are working to make the going warm all over the route. Like Clarke, I don't like to claim pennants, but—"

Uses Either Arm.

CINCINNATI, March 27.—Cincinnati has a finger named Bagby who can pitch with either arm. Elton Chamberlain was the last major leaguer to perform this stunt with any success. The minor club that sold Bagby ought to have received double price.

Good Pitching Staff.

PHILADELPHIA, March 27.—In Im-lay, Tidd, Barr, Heckinger, and Stringer, Coach Roy Thomas of Penn. has one of the strongest pitching staffs in the college ranks.

May Accept Challenge.

John Kilonis will probably probably accept the challenge of Webb Barnes, of Pittsburgh, at the Mackey-Monday match tonight.

Eastern Loses.

Eastern High School fell before Army and Navy Preps in their opening game of the season, score, 14 to 11.

NATIONALS WIN FINAL GAME FROM VIRGINIA COLLEGIANS

Schaefer Is Hitting Star for Winners, Slamming Homer.

By "SENATOR."

As a parting fling for the Orange and Blue, the Nationals handed them a 3 to 1 defeat yesterday on Lambeth Field and then led for supper and their train for home. Eppa Rixey looked good on the mound for Virginia while he worked, but his support was miserable, everybody taking turns in making wild heaves of the bounding pellet. Another portside flinger followed him, Grant, whose work was even and commendable.

The Nationals copped, but it wasn't to witness a great improvement when I came South, and there has been no disappointment. You can say for me that we are much better—much stronger than we were last season."

So said Fred Clarke, in answer to a query as to pennant possibilities this year.

Triple for Cunningham.

The first tally of the melee was chalked up on the board in the second inning, largely because of the terrific drive of Cunningham to left for three corners. The Schenectady lad was first up that inning, and he caught one of Rixey's fast ones for a beautiful wallop over Fitchett's head. Bill made new records for speed in circling the sacks and was roosting calmly on third when the ball came back for another. McBride got a life on Neff's bad throw, but Hewitt grabbed Foster's bounce and tagged McBride on the line, Cunningham flying over the plate like an eagle. The other two runs were grabbed off one at a time, Henry getting a near homer and Schaefer a real one. "Massa John" headed the Nationals in their parade to the pan in the fifth and sent a long fly to right field. Landes maneuvered around in the high gale and finally got under the drive by the time Henry was nearing second. It looked like a sure out, but the collegian had a

Tyrus Cobb Pitches For Royston Youngsters

ATHENS, Ga., March 27.—Ty Cobb brought a team composed of Royston (Ga.) boys here yesterday and downed the University of Georgia lads, 4 to 1. The feature of the game was the pitching of Cobb, who struck out one man. He gave the natives here a splendid exhibition of base running, at one time getting home from second base on a slow grounder to first base. Cobb was touched up by the university lads for eight hits.

Central vs. Treasurers Saturday Afternoon

Treasurers, of the Southern Railway League, last season will meet the Central High School nine at Capital City Park next Saturday afternoon.

Nashville Lines Up Against Cubs Today

NASHVILLE, Tenn., March 27.—Manager Chance, of the Cubs, early today declared he would lead his veterans into battle against the locals today if ground conditions were the least bit favorable.

May Lose Championship.

CINCINNATI, March 27.—If Bob Rescher's ankle is really as bad as some of the pessimistic Cincinnati scribes say, the National League base-stealing championship will go to some one else this season.

SWARTHMORE TAKES SECOND GAME FROM CATHOLICS' TEAM

Durbarrow's Base Running and Visitors' Hitting Win the Fray.

Winning over Catholic University by a score of 6 to 3 in their second contest of the season, Swarthmore scored its first victory over the local collegians in three years. To the excellent base running of Durbarrow, the Pennsylvanians' speedy center fielder, together with the generally good work of the visitors at the bat, is attributed yesterday's defeat to Catholic University.

Clancy ascended the mound for Swarthmore at the beginning of the game, and for six innings his arm worked fairly well. In the seventh inning, however, he "blew up," after which Flynn and Ryan came with the game at that position. In the seventh inning, Clancy allowed two free transmissions to the first station, and also hit a batter. This together with a safety netted Swarthmore four runs and the day's victory.

Both in the field and at bat, Swarthmore showed a marked improvement over its work of Monday. Weaver made a sensational stop of Wildmarer's drive by the pitcher, which checked several runs which the latter was driving in. Baker, for the visitors, figured in a similar play later in the fray.

Swarthmore scored the first run in the first inning, after which no runs were recorded until the third session when Durbarrow got a single to center. Clancy, stole the next two bases, and crossed the plate on Tarble's sacrifice fly. The scoring then ceased until the sixth, when Catholic University balanced the books. Zachary and Lynch worked their way around the circuit for these scores. In the next inning Clancy became wild, and the four runs which means victory were registered by Swarthmore.

Zachary scored in the eighth for Catholic University, he having made a single, after which he was driven in by Flynn's triple to center.

SEVEN RUNS EACH FOR MT. ST. MARY'S AND COLGATE NINE

JOE ENGEL'S OLD TEAM FIGURES IN BASEBALL TIE.

EMMITSBURG, Md., March 27.—Mt. St. Mary's College opened her baseball season by playing the game with Colgate College, of Hamilton, N. Y. McHale, who made his debut as a Mt. St. Mary's pitcher, although wild at times pitched a creditable game. Letters did the best work with the ball. Score by Innings:

MT. ST. MARY'S.....0 2 0 0 0 2 0 1 0 0
Colgate.....0 1 1 0 2 0 0 0 0 0
Batteries—McHale and Sebold; Perin and Rich.

Many First Basemen.

CHICAGO, March 27.—Manager Frank Chance, of Chicago, is not so badly off for first basemen, even if he is unable to play the bag himself. He has Hoffman, Baker, and possibly Zimmerman available.

Signs With York.

YORK, Pa., March 27.—William Hanrahan, son of the famous "Red" Hanrahan, who played shortstop for the old Chicago White Stockings, has been signed to play with the York team. He is a pitcher who weighs 175 pounds.

GROWTH OF MOTOR INDUSTRY SHOWN IN REGISTRY RECORDS

In Two Months 342,439 Pleasure Cars Are Entered on Lists.

By HARRY WARD.

The tremendous growth in motoring is indicated in figures compiled from reliable sources showing the registration of automobiles and trucks in the United States from January 1 to March 1, 1912. During this period 342,439 pleasure cars and 17,256 trucks were registered, the total fees amounting to \$2,854,398. Of this number at the District of Columbia contributed 301 pleasure cars and 24 trucks, for which \$1,090 in fees was collected.

New York leads the country in registrations, with 48,155 pleasure cars and 48,155 trucks, the total fees amounting to \$506,322. California has the honor of being second in the list, with 29,500 registrations of pleasure cars and 1,200 trucks, the fees contributed during the period under consideration being \$30,000. Third in rank is Pennsylvania, the registration for the first two months of this year being 25,164 pleasure cars and 1,800 trucks, the fees amounting to \$256,000. Ohio occupies fourth position, with registrations of 25,200 pleasure cars and 500 trucks. The fees collected amounted to \$126,382.

During the first two months of the year the various automobile makers have produced 125,000 cars, valued at approximately \$1,500,000. The production for the same period of 1911 was 62,846 cars, valued at \$1,557,000. The estimated output of cars this year is 347,427 machines, the value of which will be around \$309,283,750. Nearly all automobile manufacturing companies open their doors to the public, and the value of the cars is increasing their production.

What is claimed to be the largest auction sale of automobiles ever held in Washington will begin tomorrow at the Central Garage. The sale will be conducted by the National Sales Company, and it is understood cars of all styles and types will be offered.

A pocket automobile guide of the District of Columbia has just been compiled by A. P. Conway and L. A. Roberts. It gives the registration numbers of every motor car operated here, as well as the name and address of the owner. The automobile laws of the District, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia are also set forth in the guide.

There are two new followers of the great national game, not only the rural mail carrier and the farmer. While the players are in training and the baseball season opens, the diamond and the new followers of the diamond are watching with increased interest each new move. One because he expects to join the team, and the other because he can get reports of the game several hours earlier each day.

Mack Planning Again.

PHILADELPHIA, March 27.—Connie Mack is always planning for the season that are to come. The foxey leader of the Athletics watches very closely the work of the youngsters and allows his veterans to take care of themselves.

Browns Refuse Austin.

ST. LOUIS, March 27.—Jimmie Austin is asking a raise of \$1,500 over his contract of last season, which would put his salary up to \$15,000. The St. Louis management cannot see this raise from any angle.

The Added Starter Wins First Heat

News Item: La Follette wins North Dakota Republican delegates from Taft and Roosevelt. La Follette opened a strenuous campaign in North Dakota just two days before primary elections and won out. He was not considered a serious candidate.

The man on the job is usually the one who wins out. That is the answer to our success. We are always on the job looking out for our patrons' clothes interests. We're working while the other fellow sleeps. Yes, we're always springing some big surprise to keep business brisk—cutting off profits to widen our acquaintance and to gain greater popularity.

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